

# WHAT'S UP, DACH?

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By Amy Stover, PAO, 286-7954

## HOT News

### Holiday Ball Tickets On Sale

Tickets to this year's Holiday Ball are now on sale. Tickets can be purchased in the Adjutant's Office, room 1031.

Tickets are \$20 for SFC/GS9/contract equiv. and above and \$15 for SSG/GS8/contract equiv. and below.

The Holiday Ball is Dec. 6 at the Phantom Warrior Center.

## MEDDAC Happenings

### Winter Safety Day

Winter Safety Day is Nov. 14 at the front entrance to the hospital. Safety displays and agencies will be set up to pass along information such as hunting safety, cold weather safety and child safety.

In case of inclement weather, the displays will be moved inside to designated conference rooms.

### MEDDAC Golf Tournament

The next golf tournament is scheduled for Nov. 19 with a shotgun start at 11 a.m. at the Clear Creek Golf Course. The format is a 4-person scramble. There is a \$25 entry fee that includes cart and greens fees.

For more information, or to register, please contact Capt. Soo Lee Davis at [soo.davis@amedd.army.mil](mailto:soo.davis@amedd.army.mil).

## Commander's Corner



Darnall Staff,

Thank you so much for all that you do every day to provide our patients with outstanding healthcare.

I am very impressed with your positive and ready attitude every day as you help our patients and adapt to new taskings and a changing environment.

We've seen on the news recently that our national leaders are discussing war. The deployment of forces from Fort Hood is a possibility. If this occurs, I am confident that we will do our part in ensuring that soldiers leaving here are healthy and medically protected for deployment.

Until we hear differently, we must continue to focus on our beneficiaries and peacetime healthcare. Providing our patients the medical care they deserve is our top priority.

Remaining flexible is key to accomplishing our missions of readiness and peacetime healthcare. Often, priorities shift in a matter of minutes. I am relying on you to work hard, accomplish the mission at hand, and come back the next day re-energized and ready to take on the next mission.

I know you're busy and I know you've been working hard and I really appreciate all of your efforts. It's because of you that we are the number one MEDDAC in the Army.

Hooah!

Thank you,

Col. Donald J. Kasperik

# Training Opportunities

## Cold Injury Prevention Course

All military personnel must take the online cold injury prevention course no later than Nov. 22. The course may be accessed through HES on the MEDDAC Intranet and takes 15-20 minutes to complete.

For more information, please contact 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Melissa Davis at 285-5630.

## Respirator Fit Testing Class

The next respirator fit testing class will be held Nov. 13 from 1-3 p.m. in the Darnall Family Care Clinic.

To reserve a slot, please call the Safety Office at 286-7381.

## Cancer Lecture

The Cancer Committee will sponsor a cancer lecture Nov. 12 at 3:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The subject will be "Maximizing Oncologic Therapy: A Focus on Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia" by Dr Issa Khouri of MD Anderson Hospital's Department of Blood and Marrow Transplantation, Division of Cancer. CEUs will be awarded and the program is open to all DACH staff members.

## Safety and the Manager

The next Safety and the Manager class will be held Nov. 20 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in building 36001, room 158. This course is mandatory for all supervisors.

To reserve a slot, please call the Safety Office at 288-8477.

## QI Workshop

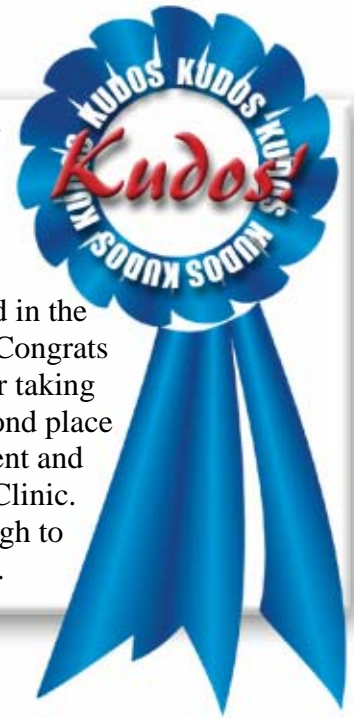
The next QI Workshop will be Nov. 27 at 9 a.m. in the COD Conference Room. The topic is JCAHO requirements for meeting minutes.

## Kudos to staff members

Kudos to all MEDDAC staff who participated in Make a Difference Day and the Retiree Health Fair Oct. 26.

Kudos to those who participated in the MEDDAC Bowling Challenge. Congrats to the Civilian Personnel team for taking home the first place trophy. Second place went to the Emergency Department and third place went to the Pediatric Clinic.

Thank you to all who care enough to volunteer for these great causes.



## Did You Know?

### Provider Email Distribution List Available

A distribution list of all providers is now available on Outlook. The list can be accessed by clicking on a new email message, clicking on the "to" button and typing in Darnall ACH-Providers. To see if you are on the list, right click on Darnall ACH-Providers and click on properties. A listing of all the email addresses in the distribution list should appear.

For more information, or to be added to the list, please contact the Information Management Division at 288-8555.

### New Name for E/MSS

Employee Member Self-Service, or EMSS, has changed its name to My Pay. My Pay can be used by government civilians and military members to access things such as a recent LES, make an address change or change federal and state withholding.

You can access My Pay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil> or <https://emss.dfas.mil>. E/MSS PINs and passwords will still be valid at the new My Pay site.

For more information on My Pay, or to request a password and PIN, please access the site.



### **Holiday Ball Talent**

Auditions will be held Nov. 19 from 1-3 p.m. in the hospital auditorium for MEDDAC staff members interested in providing entertainment during the Holiday Ball. Each participant is asked to present a 3-5 minute sample of his or her talent during the audition.

For more information, or to schedule your audition, please contact Capt. Jeff Neigh at 288-8824 or via email at [jeffrey.neigh@cen.amedd.army.mil](mailto:jeffrey.neigh@cen.amedd.army.mil).

### **Outpatient Medical Records Has New Hours**

Effective Nov. 16, the new hours for Outpatient Medical Records are:  
Saturday/Sunday - 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.  
Federal Holidays – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The OMRB will remain open 24 hours during the week and on training holidays.

By established policy, the AOD is responsible for emergency retrieval of records.

For more information, please contact Chieko Munro at 288-8166.

### **Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season**

Federal employees health benefits open season is Nov. 11 to Dec. 9.

A health benefits fair will be held Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in building 4335 on 77<sup>th</sup> Street across from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. All major health insurance carriers will be represented.

For more information on the health fair, please contact the CPAC at 288-2059 or 288-2016.

### **Use E-Tickets for Official Travel**

The Joint Travel Regulation has been updated to authorize the use of electronic tickets when traveling in an official capacity.

Several airlines such as, Delta, American and Continental, are currently charging a \$20 fee for paper tickets. Other airlines are expected to follow. To maximize efficient use of travel dollars, use of electronic tickets is encouraged whenever possible.

Paying for paper tickets sought by members for personal convenience is the financial responsibility of the member. Any additional costs incurred when a paper ticket is issued to meet the government's requirements and are not for the member's convenience will be reimbursable.

For more information, please contact the Personnel Division at 286-7244.

## *Quotes*

### **Effort**

“We aim above the mark to hit the mark.”

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

“Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.”

*Will Rogers*

“It is no use saying, ‘We are doing our best.’ You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary.”

*Sir Winston Churchill*

## ***MEDDAC Halloween Happenings***

### **Pumpkin Decorating Contest Raises Money, Food for Project Thankful**



The Patient Administration Division won the pumpkin decorating contest with their patriotic pumpkin. Staff members voted on the pumpkin they liked best by donating cash or a canned good to Project Thankful to benefit needy MEDDAC families.

Maj. Anthony White, chief Patient Administration Division accepted a certificate and commander's coin from COL Kasperik on behalf of the division.



The Staff of 3 South took second place in the pumpkin decorating contest with their pumpkin. 3 South received a certificate for their efforts from COL Kasperik.